

# Idea Contest POWER H2020

Author: Mariana Filipe

Institution: NOVA University, School of Science and Technology

Milton Keynes is in one of the driest areas in the United Kingdom, rainfall average is registered as almost half of the country's average.

The following idea aims to make this city and its local communities an example for best practices in water management and efficiency: nowadays phone apps are used to chronometer a variety of activities such as regular work-outs or study time. This idea involves the creation of an app that one can activate when doing a certain activity that implies the use of water, like brushing their teeth, watering the garden, cleaning vegetables for dinner, showering (...), and this way timing the water usage and estimating water quantity used. The app would also offer recommendations when water usage for a certain activity was considered too high and set weekly and monthly targets for water consumption.

The point of the app would be directly linked to the participation in a contest amongst the communities or neighborhoods in Milton Keynes. In this contest:

- the participation of a percentage of the population in each community registered would be mandatory
- the water consumption of that part of the community would have to be somewhat similar to the data that every person submitted to the app
- the winning community would be chosen by a jury that would evaluate the water consumption in each neighborhood, if the data from the app matches the consumption of part of the neighborhood, the evolution of said consumption in time (from the beginning to the end of the competition), amongst other indicators.

This idea would bring together communities to register as much data, which can be used for future research, and be collectively more aware of water consumption and ways to reduce it. It could also be implemented in Lisbon, or other Portuguese cities, since water scarcity has become a rising issue in this country.

App's possible layout:

